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**From:** James\_H\_Jr\_Zeisloft@apimc01.rl.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 30, 1998 5:16 PM  
**To:** tlelzie@bhi010.bhi-erc.com  
**Subject:** FW: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS FOR HANFORD'S GROUNDWATER/VADOSE ZONE PLANNING DOCUMENT

Please forward this meesage to the NRTC. Thanks.

Jamie

> -----Original Message-----  
> From: ^Exchange General Delivery  
> Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 1998 11:21 AM  
> Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS FOR HANFORD'S  
> GROUNDWATER/VADOSE ZONE PLANNING DOCUMENT  
>  
> ANNOUNCEMENT  
>  
> Department of Energy RL No.:  
> 99-055  
> Richland Operations Office  
> P.O. Box 550  
> Richland, Washington 99352 Issued:  
> 12/30/98  
>  
> To: ALL RL EMPLOYEES  
> (DOE RL Press Release Issued to News Media)  
>  
> Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS FOR HANFORD'S  
> GROUNDWATER/VADOSE ZONE PLANNING DOCUMENT  
>  
> The public has the opportunity to comment on the Department of  
> Energy's (DOE) plans to assure that future clean up actions at  
> the Hanford Site will protect water resources, including the  
> Columbia River.  
>  
> Those plans are contained in the just released Groundwater/Vadose  
> Zone Integration Project Specification, now available for public  
> review. Developed with significant input from the public and  
> Tribal Nations, the specification document describes plans for  
> integrating individual Hanford projects and provides a science  
> and technology roadmap to support decisions to clean up Hanford.  
>  
> Hanford's Groundwater/Vadose Zone Integration Project developed  
> the three-part draft plan, which includes a Project  
> Specification, a cost and schedule baseline and a long range  
> plan. The Project was established in January 1998, in response to  
> DOE's announcement that past leaks from Hanford's single shell  
> tanks had contaminated the soil between the surface and  
> groundwater (called the vadose zone) and were now impacting the  
> site's groundwater, which is moving toward the Columbia River.  
>  
> "Although our Hanford projects are individually focused on  
> protecting the Columbia River, it's clear that we need to take a  
> sitewide approach to our clean-up," said Linda Bauer, Assistant  
> Manager for Environmental Restoration. "This integration effort  
> will assure that our impact assessments, our clean up actions and  
> our use of science and technologies are being applied in the  
> best possible way to protect our water resources."  
>  
> The draft plan outlines the project's five objectives and  
> proposed approaches for achieving them. They include:  
> - Integrating all Hanford Site Groundwater/Vadose Zone related  
> work scope;  
> - Predicting current and future impacts resulting from

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- > contaminants released to the soil and
- > groundwater;
- > - Providing a sound science and technology basis for cleanup
- > decisions and actions;
- > - Fully involving the Tribal Nations, regulators and stakeholders
- > so that the project accurately
- > reflects their interests and values;
- > - Establishing an independent technical peer review process.
- >
- > The public comment period for the document will extend until
- > March 12, 1999. Copies of the plan are being placed in the
- > public reading rooms and will be available on the Internet at
- > <http://www.bhi-erc.com/vadose/pubrev.htm>. A copy also may be
- > obtained by calling Karen Strickland on (509) 372-9236 or by
- > sending an e-mail to the "webmaster" at [webmaster@bhi-erc.com](mailto:webmaster@bhi-erc.com).
- >
- > Workshops to discuss the document will be held in the Tri-Cities
- > and Seattle, Washington, and Portland and Hood River, Oregon.
- > Specific dates, locations, and times will be announced later.
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